

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 260610

63

ORIGIN EB-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260610

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: STATUS OF AUSTRALIAN COMPLIANCE WITH MEAT IMPORT
RESTRAINT PROGRAM

1. FOR PAST SEVERAL WEEKS WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH
AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY AND RESIDENT MEAT BOARD REP THE RATE
OF AUSTRALIAN MEAT SHIPMENTS UNDER OUR RESTRAINT AGREEMENT.
AFTER EXHAUSTIVE EXAMINATION OF IMPORT AND SHIPMENT FIGURES,
IS CLEAR THAT THERE WILL BE A SUBSTANTIAL OVERAGE IF ALL
SHIPMENTS WERE ADMITTED. WE ESTIMATE THAT THE RESTRAINT
LEVEL WOULD BE EXCEEDED WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS.

2. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, WE PLAN TO MEET FORMALLY WITH AUS-
TRALIAN REPS NOVEMBER 4 TO DISCUSS ACTION TO BE TAKEN TO
AVOID EXCEEDING RESTRAINT LEVEL. UNLESS OTHER ACCOMMODATION
REACHED, E.G., AUSTRALIAN STORAGE OF MEAT ARRIVING IN EXCESS
OF RESTRAINT LEVEL, WE WILL BE FORCED TO INVOKE SECTION 204
OF AGRICULTURE ACT TO PREVENT ENTRY OF AUSTRALIAN MEAT.
THIS IS FOR YOUR BACKGROUND SHOULD 204 ACTION BE NECESSARY.
KISSINGER

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